

Mr. Speaker, we should stand strong against the accession of China to the WTO.

ANTIDUMPING AND ANTISUBSIDY PROVISIONS SHOULD NOT BE NEGOTIATED AWAY IN NEW ROUND OF WTO

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 19, 1999, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. VISCLOSKY) is recognized during morning hour debates for 4 minutes.

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to press my argument that as the new round of WTO negotiations begin in Seattle later this month, we should support the administration's position not to negotiate away the antidumping and antisubsidy provisions of our trade laws.

I would also ask that this House vote to support this position by supporting H. Res. 298.

Seattle is the follow-on to the Uruguay Round which was completed on April 15, 1994, and signed by ministers from over 125 countries. Part of this agreement included changes to the antidumping laws which had been included in GATT since its original inception in 1947. In fact, article 6 of the 1947 GATT states very clearly that the contracting parties recognize that dumping is to be condemned.

The scope of negotiations at the Seattle round discussions of the World Trade Organization were specified during the Uruguay Round. However, some countries now are seeking to circumvent the agreed list of negotiating topics and reopen the debate over the WTO's antidumping and antisubsidy rules.

Antidumping duties are assessed on imported merchandise that is sold at less than fair market value. Countervailing duties are assessed to reverse the effects of foreign government subsidies to manufacturers. Today, over 290 products from 59 countries have been found to have been traded in violation of these international standards.

The ability to impose binding tariffs and apply them equitably to all trading partners is the key to a smooth and liberal flow of trade. Many of my colleagues think that this is a steel issue. That could not be further from the truth. The experience of the U.S. cement industry indicates that the antidumping law can be an effective remedy for unfairly priced imports.

U.S. consumption of cement increased substantially during the 1983 to 1989 economic expansion as construction boomed. U.S. cement producers, however, were prevented from benefiting in this growing demand by a surge of low-priced imports in that 6-year period of time.

U.S. production capacity declined by 10 percent and the number of U.S. plants decreased from 142 to only 109.

Beginning in 1989, southern cement producers successfully prosecuted antidumping petitions against imports from several countries. The Commerce Department found dumping margins for imports from 58 to 64 percent. As a result of these measures, cement producers began their recovery process in our country.

Another example often cited is that of the U.S. semiconductor industry in 1986. After foreign dynamic random-access memory chips, DRAMs, were dumped in the United States for 2 years, 7 out of 9 U.S. companies ceased making these chips.

After those foreign firms dominated the world market, they raised the price of DRAMs. The subsequent use of U.S. antidumping laws contributed finally to the revival of the U.S. semiconductor industry, which in 1993 again held the number one position in the world.

Given the fact again that there are 230 cosponsors of House Resolution 298, I would renew my request to the House leaders that this measure be brought to the floor for a vote.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12 of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 38 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

□ 1000

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. OSE) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

Rabbi Joel Tessler, Temple Beth Shalom, Potomac, Maryland, offered the following prayer:

In the Bible, the Prophet Billim is hired to curse the Jewish people, the chosen people of God. Try as he might, God would not place in him the spirit of condemnation and curse, but enveloped him in true understanding with purity and love.

Billim uttered these famous words which were said as a person enters the synagogue: "How goodly are your homes of Jacob, your institutions of Israel?"

Why do we praise our homes when we enter the synagogue? The Lord taught Billim that our institutions are only as strong as our homes.

If the American family is under siege, is it any wonder that our schools are becoming battle zones for children and teachers?

Money alone cannot substitute for the foundation and grounding that parents, grandparents, and families pro-

vide. Every discussion in these halls must be judged with an eye on how goodly are our homes, the homes we help our citizens create.

Our institutions, whether schools or houses of worship, are only as strong as the families which make up this great land.

Today is the anniversary of Kristel Nacht, the night of the broken glass, when darkness descended upon Nazi Germany and thousands of synagogues were set on fire.

Our institutions and the future of our society depends on the families we help support. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTSCH) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. DEUTSCH led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 348. An act to authorize the construction of a monument to honor those who have served the Nation's civil defense and emergency management programs.

H.R. 915. An act to authorize a cost of living adjustment in the pay of administrative law judges.

H.R. 3061. An act to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to extend for an additional 2 years the period for admission of an alien as a nonimmigrant under section 101(a)(15)(S) of such Act, and to authorize appropriations for the refugee assistance program under chapter 2 of title IV of the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The message also announced that the Senate had passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 2724. An act to make technical corrections to the Water Resources Development Act of 1999.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed bills and concurrent resolutions of the following titles in which concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 923. An act to promote full equality at the United Nations for Israel.